

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-05 INR-07 L-03
ACDA-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 SS-15 PRS-01 SP-02 TRSE-00
DODE-00 OIC-02 DHA-05 CU-04 COME-00 EB-08 LAB-04
SIL-01 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 /091 W
-----125475 071003Z /17

O 070947Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1688

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO IMMEDIATE

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BRUSSELS 11264

NOFORN

ALSO FOR USEEC

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EEC, CSCE, BE

SUBJECT: BELGIAN EC PRESIDENCY; POLITICAL DIRECTORS'
MEETING, SEPT 6-7, 1977: CSCE

REF: BRUSSELS 10414

1. EC PRESIDENCY OFFICER, DE SCHOUTHEETE, NOTED THAT THE
POLITICAL DIRECTORS' DISCUSSION OF CSCE WOULD BE FOLLOWED
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UP IN OTHER FORA INCLUDING NATO (SEPT 7-8), THE COUNCIL
OF EUROPE (SEPT 16) AND AGAIN AT A NATO HEADS OF DELEGATION
MEETING TO COORDINATE POSITIONS (SEPT 28).

2. DE SCHOUTHEETE REPORTED THAT THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS'
CSCE DISCUSSIONS HAD FOCUSSED ON TWO DOCUMENTS, BOTH OF
WHICH WILL BE CIRCULATED AT NATO SEPT 7. THE FIRST IS ON

MAIN THEMES AND IS A CATALOGUE OF POINTS WHICH IN THE NINE'S VIEW SHOULD BE MADE AT BELGRADE. THE SECOND IS A SERIES OF PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE HELSINKI FINAL ACT. NEITHER DOCUMENT WAS FORMALLY APPROVED BY THE MINISTERS, WHO DECIDED THAT SUCH FORMAL APPROVAL WAS NOT NECESSARY.

3. IN ADDITION TO REVIEWING THE DOCUMENTS CITED ABOVE, THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS ARRIVED AT CONCLUSIONS ON HOW TO TREAT THE REPRESENTATION OF THE COMMUNITY AT BELGRADE. THEY DECIDED NOT TO FIGHT OVER NAMEPLATES ANYMORE, BUT TO STRESS IN STATEMENTS THAT THE PRESIDENCY WOULD ON OCCASION SPEAK AS THE PRESIDENCY AND THAT ON OTHER OCCASIONS A MEMBER OF THE NINE WOULD STATE THAT HE WAS SPEAKING ON BEHALF OF THE NINE. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS HOPE THAT BY REACHING THIS DECISION IT WILL MAKE THE REPRESENTATION ISSUE INTO A NON-CONTROVERSIAL NON-ISSUE. DE SCHOUTHEETE SAID THAT THIS DECISION WOULD NOT BE DISCUSSED AT NATO SEPT 7.

4. THE POLITICAL DIRECTORS FURTHER ARRIVED AT A GENERAL CONSENSUS ON THE OVERALL TACTICAL STANCE THE NINE SHOULD TAKE AT THE BELGRADE CONFERENCE. DE SCHOUTHEETE SAID THAT THE NINE WOULD SEEK TO AVOID POLEMICS, BUT NOT BE TOO SOFT. THE NINE WOULD BE PREPARED TO RESPOND TO SOVIET ATTACKS IN HARDER TERMS THAN THEY WOULD USE IN CONFIDENTIAL

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PRESENTING THEIR INITIAL STATEMENTS. THE NINE WOULD ALSO BE MORE HARD-LINE AND SPECIFIC IN THE CLOSED COMMISSIONS THAN IN THE OPEN PLENARY SESSIONS. THE BASIC APPROACH OF THE NINE WOULD BE TO FOCUS ON WHAT REMAINS TO BE DONE TO ACCOMPLISH THE GOALS SET FORTH AT HELSINKI RATHER THAN TO REVIEW THE FAILURES OF THE PAST.

5. THE EC CSCE EXPERTS WILL DRAFT THE PRESIDENCY'S SPEECH FOR BELGRADE AND DECIDE WHICH MEMBER OF THE NINE WILL MAKE WHAT POINT AT BELGRADE. CHAMBERS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: MEETINGS, REGIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, POLITICAL SITUATION
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Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977BRUSSE11264
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
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Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 BRUSSELS 10414
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 11-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1370334
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: BELGIAN EC PRESIDENCY; POLITICAL DIRECTORS' MEETING, SEPT 6-7, 1977: CSCE
TAGS: PFOR, BE, EEC, CSCE
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/4645034d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009